

BOOK REVIEWS

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE does not review all books sent to it by the publishers. A list of new books received is carried in the Advertising Section.

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF PODIATRY—Frank Weinstein, D.S.C., F.A.C.F.R., Editor. Lea & Febiger, 600 South Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19106), 1968. 508 pages, \$22.50.

Dr. Weinstein is the author of the chapters on "History of Podiatry"; "Physical Examination of the Lower Extremities"; "Fractures and Dislocation of Foot and Ankle"; "Foot Orthopedics"; "Roentgenology in Podiatry"; and "Forensic Podiatry." He has delegated the chapter on "Systemic Diseases in the Lower Extremities" to E. G. Krel, M.D., "Neurologic Diseases" to George Monckton, M.D., and "Evaluation of Foot Disabilities" to R. Graham Huckell, M.D. He acknowledges the help of an orthopedic surgeon in the preparation of the chapter on "Physical Diagnosis," a resident in psychiatry in the chapter on "Foot Orthopedics," a general practitioner in the chapter on "Fractures" and a general surgeon in the chapter on "Foot Surgery."

The section on "History of Podiatry" is informative. The designation *podiatry* was first adopted in 1957 to the total exclusion of the word *chiropody*; however, the degree of D.S.C. (Doctor of Surgical Chiropody) continues to be used. There is a National Board of Examiners, and sub-specialties such as foot surgery, foot roentgenology, foot orthopedics and foot dermatology.

The chapter entitled "Dermatology in Podiatry" by Dr. Marvin Steinberg states, "I urge that under no circumstances should x-ray or radium treatment ever be given for warts or any other benign lesion on the human foot." However, Dr. Lewis O'Keen, in chapter 17, "X-ray Therapy in Podiatry," states that plantar warts, inflamed bursae, corns, excessive sweating or unusually odoriferous sweating, ringworm, athlete's foot, eczema and pruritis are all amenable to x-ray therapy. (Most present-day radiologists who do therapy restrict such therapy to malignant lesions.) Generally speaking, the section on dermatology is well done and extremely complete. The section on nails (or onychology) is an extension and is likewise very complete. (I would not ordinarily believe that 34 pages of a textbook could possibly be devoted to this lifeless, horny topic.) Fifty-two afflictions of the nails are listed.

By definition and inference, *podiatry* refers to the *foot*; however, in chapter 9, the author lists fractures and dislocations of the ankle and suggests surgical treatment with open reduction and bone screws. This appears to be above and beyond the podiatrist's field—and above and beyond his usual capability. The author also suggests that dis-

locating the ankle joint and widening of the ankle mortise is not a serious problem and can be handled by a Gibney bootstrapping.

The chapter on "Psychosomatic Disorders" seems somehow redundant in the context of this rather comprehensive text. At the end, there is a rather weak recommendation to seek psychiatric consultation *unless* the podiatrist is thoroughly grounded in psychodynamics.

The chapter on roentgenology is well done, but perhaps tends to oversimplify diagnosis by x-ray. (One may often go back to an x-ray *after* a diagnosis has been confirmed by some other means and be very brilliant on pointing out all of the special points now easily apparent on the film which were missed before.)

Malignant primary tumors or metastatic tumors are rarely found in the foot; however, the chapter on oncology suggests amputation as treatment for osteogenic sarcoma, chondromyxosarcoma, Erving's tumor, fibrosarcoma, multiple myeloma and synovium.

In summary, this book is well-researched and has voluminous bibliographical references at the end of each chapter. My general criticism is that it does not recommend consultation often enough, and implies that the podiatrist may conscientiously do complete examinations of the human body, including laboratory and x-ray studies, in order to treat the foot.

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HUMAN LABOR AND BIRTH—Second Edition—Harry Oxorn, B.A., M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S.(C); Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, McGill University; Obstetrician and Gynecologist-in-Chief, Reddy Memorial Hospital; and William R. Foote, B.A., M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., F.R.C.S.(C); Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, McGill University. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Division of Meredith Publishing Company, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. (10016), 1968. 538 pages, \$8.50 (Paperbound).

The second edition of this excellent student textbook by two Montreal obstetricians was revised four years after its initial appearance by adding some 50 pages of text and a number of new references to original sources. There are two entirely new chapters that present brief discussions of premature labor and prolonged pregnancy. The preface, for some reason, is identical with that of the first edition and thus makes no mention of the revisions that have added bulk without necessarily making the book more useful.